

DOCKET NO.: IVIA-0004
Application No.: 10/663,325
Office Action Dated: January 25, 2007

**PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116**

REMARKS

Claims 11-18 are pending. Claim 11 is the independent claim. Claims 21-31 are canceled herewith.

In an Official Action dated Jan. 25, 2007, pending claims 11-18 were rejected under 35 USC §103. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments set forth above.

Applicants note that while Treynor discloses storing a hit count as stated in the Official Action item 7, such hit count would not account for whether a cacheline has zero, one, or multiple predecessors, as required by amended claim 11. This aspect of the invention is illustrated on pages 36-38 of Applicant's specification and corresponding drawings.

Applicants have reviewed the other references of record and find them similarly deficient in this regard. Withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the application at Examiner's earliest convenience is therefore requested.

Date: May 25, 2007

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